

in her class. Thereafter, she completed post-graduate studies in biology at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. Rachel attained her medical degree from Boston University's School of Medicine in 1949.

Also in 1949, Dr. Rachel Boone was featured in a Look Magazine story about Boston University's home medical service and in The Boston Globe for scoring the highest ever on a national board test. After completing her internship at Harlem Hospital, she served at Brooklyn's Coney Island Hospital before moving to Detroit in 1951. In 1953, she married attorney Damon J. Keith. Dr. Keith completed a 2-year residency in Internal Medicine at Detroit Receiving Hospital in 1953. In 1954, she joined the staff at Detroit Memorial Hospital and entered private practice. During her half century of medical practice, Dr. Keith was also affiliated with Burton Mercy, Detroit Riverview, Detroit Receiving, Harper, Hutzel, and Sinai hospitals.

A member of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church for 53 years, Rachel Keith was a deeply religious woman who lived her faith. She served her family, her patients and her community with dedication and tenacity. As a physician, she gave every patient her full attention and complete care. She was a loving and nurturing mother to her daughters, Cecile, Debbie and Gilda and an exemplary role model who taught them to give back and help others. Her devotion and love for her husband of 53 years, Judge Damon J. Keith, was steadfast. As a member of the Detroit community, she as an active participant in numerous civic and social organizations, always with the intent of making life better for others. She was a true pioneer in the medical community, a civil rights activist, a compassionate mentor and a strong advocate for her patients, the poor and uninsured.

In addition to her immediate family, Rachel Boone Keith is survived by her brother, Rev. Clinton C. Boone, II, her granddaughters, Nia and Camara Brown, in whom she took great pride, her son-in-law, Daryle Brown, her niece and nephew, Rane Boone Franklin and Rev. Clinton C. Boone III, and a host of loving relatives and friends.

Opening Hymn, "Blessed Assurance", Tabernacle Combined Choirs.

Scriptures: Matthew 25: 34-36, II Timothy 4:6-8, Reverend Nicholas Hood, Sr., Pastor Emeritus, Plymouth United Church of Christ.

Prayer, Reverend Dr. Oscar R. Carter, Inkster Springhill Baptist Church.

Musical Selection, "The Lord Is My Light", Walter McLean.

Remarks, The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm, Governor, State of Michigan, The Honorable Kwame M. Kilpatrick, Mayor, City of Detroit, Dr. James Brown, Longtime Medical Partner.

Family Tribute, Cecile Keith Brown, Daughter.

Silent Reading Of The Obituary, Musical Selection, "I Really Love The Lord".

Musical Selection, "His Eye Is On The Sparrow", Virginia Winters.

Eulogy, Reverend Dr. Charles G. Adams, Senior Pastor, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church.

Hymn, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness", Congregation.

Closing Prayer, Reverend Nathan Johnson, Senior Pastor, Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church.

Recessional, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again", Tabernacle Combined Choirs.

Dr. Keith's medical affiliations included: American Medical Association; Beaumont Hospital; Blue Care Network; Blue Preferred; Comprehensive Cancer Center of Metropolitan Detroit; Detroit Department of Health;

Detroit Gastroenterological Society; Detroit Medical Center; Detroit Medical Society; DMC Care; Eastwood Clinic Chemical Dependency Unit; Michigan Board of Medicine; Michigan State Medical Society; National Medical Association; Omnicare; Professional Plaza Health Care Center P.C.; University of Michigan Hospitals, Public Advisory Board; Wayne County Medical Society; Wayne State University College of Nursing; and Wayne State University School of Medicine.

Dr. Keith's civic and cultural affiliations included: African American Association of Liberia; African Development Fund; American Leprosy Mission; Coleman A. Young Foundation; Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan; Detroit Community Music School; Detroit Institute of Arts; Detroit Science Center; Detroit Symphony Orchestra; Governor's Commission on the Future of Higher Education; Links, Inc.—Great Lakes Chapter; Mayor's Committee for the Cultural Center; Mayor's Emergency Relief Committee; Metropolitan Area Service Organization; NAACP—Lifetime Member; National Council of Negro Women, Inc.; Top Ladies of Distinction; and World Energy Conference.

She received numerous awards including: Boston University, Rebecca Lee Award; Boston University, Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters; Central Michigan University, Honorary Degree, Doctor of Public Service; Mary McLeod Bethune Award; Sinai Hospital Recognition Award; and Zeta Phi Beta Woman of the Year.

Honorary Pallbearers: Robert and Maggie Allesee, Herman Anderson, Dr. William Anderson, Hon. Dennis W. Archer, Hon. Trudy Archer, Leon Atchison, Edward Bailey, Anita Baker, Don and Bella Barden, Dr. and Mrs. Hiram Bell.

Mr. and Mrs. Werten Bellamy, Sr., Dr. Lerone Bennett, Dave Bing, Black Judges Association of Michigan, Alberta Blackburn, Catherine Carter Blackwell, Raymond H. Boone, Charles Boyce, Joe Brown, Dr. Waldo Cain.

Dr. Benjamin A. Carson, Marvel Cheeks, Hon. Carolyn Cheeks-Kilpatrick, Dr. Aram V. Chobanian, Dr. June Christmas, Hon. Erie L. Clay, Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton, Pres. William Jefferson Clinton, Hon. R. Guy Cole, Jr., Prof. James Coleman, William Coleman, Jr.

Pres. Mary Sue Coleman, Dr. Julius V. Combs, Congressman John Conyers, Nathan Conyers, Leon Cooper, Dr. Wendell Cox, Peter D. Cummings and Julie Fisher Cummings, David DiChiera, Congressman John and Debbie Dingell.

Walter E. Douglas, Eugene and Elaine Driker, Prof. Michael Eric Dyson, Esther Gordy Edwards, Bishop Charles H. Ellis, III, Douglas Ellman, Myrlie Evers Williams, Hon. Edward Ewell, Jr., Hon. John Feikens, Oscar Feldman, Dr. Otis Ferguson.

Howard Fitts, Sylvia Flanagan, Rev. Kenneth Flowers, Edsel and Cynthia Ford, Mr. and Mrs. William Clay Ford, Jr., W. Frank Fountain, Aretha Franklin, Dr. John Hope Franklin, Roderick G. Gillum, Dr. Holly S. Gilmer-Hill.

Tom and Carol Goss, Thomas A. Gottschalk, Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm and Daniel Mulhern, The Greater Detroit Links, Forrest Green, Dr. Rosalind Griffin, Prof. Lani Guinier, Elliott Hall, Ronald E. Hall, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven H. Hamp, Carmen Harlan, Al and Kathy Harrison, Hon. Erma Henderson, Prof. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Oliver W. Hill, Jimmy Hoffa, Jr., Dr. Melvin L. Hollowell, Sr., Melvin "Butch" Hollowell, Jr., Dr. Benjamin Hooks, Willie Horton, Charles Hamilton Houston, III, Corrine Houston, Joseph and Jean Hudson, Dr. Ann Marie Ice, Mike and Marian

Ilitch, Dr. Lonnie Joe, Dr. Arthur L. and Chacona Johnson, E. Christopher Johnson, Hon. Sterling Johnson.

Hon. Nathaniel R. Jones, Vernon E. and Ann Jordan, Eleanor Josaitis, Dr. Darnell and Shirley Kaigler, Peter and Danialle Karmanos, Emory King, Joe W. Laymon, Otis K. Lee, Senator Carl Levin, David Baker Lewis.

Diana Lewis, Dr. Ronald Little, Samuel Logan, Hon. Conrad L. Mallett, Jr., Richard and Jane Manoogian, Mrs. Thurgood Marshall, Hon. and Mrs. William McClain, Mrs. Wade McCree, Jr., Aubrey McCutcheon, Jr., Rodney O'Neal.

Genna Rae McNeil, Jesse Jai McNeil, James Nicholson, Steve Palackdharry, Nancy Parson, Dr. Robert E.L. Perkins, Dr. William F. Pickard, Vivian Rogers Pickard, Sharon Madison Polk, Gen. Colin and Alma Powell, Waltraud E. Prechter.

Dr. Irvin D. Reid, Roy S. and Maureen Roberts, Dr. Alma Rose, Dean Kurt L. Schmoke, Alan E. and Marianne Schwartz, The Shaya Family, Roger Short, Tavis Smiley, Senator Debbie Stabenow, Elaine Eason Steele.

Marc Stepp, Emanuel Steward, Chuck Stokes, Herbert Strather, Pres. H. Patrick Swygert, Frank Taylor, Dr. Natalia Tanner, A. Alfred Taubman, Dr. Lorna Thomas, Reginald M. Turner, Jr.

Abe Venable, Richard Wade, Irene Walt, Hon. JoAnn Watson, Rev. Lance Watson, Dr. Charles Whitten, Gov. Douglas Wilder, Hon. Ann Claire Williams, Lt. Kenneth Williams, Mrs. Stanley Winkelman, Robert Hughes Wright, Dean Frank Wu, David N. Zack.

Pallbearers: Luther Alton Keith, Gregory Sims, Reverend Clinton C. Boone, III, Terrence Keith, Martinzey Sims, Alex Parrish.

Flower Bearers: Great Lakes Chapter of the Links, Inc. and friends.

Final Arrangements Entrusted to: Swanston Funeral Home, Inc., 14751 W. McNichols Road, Detroit, Michigan, (313) 272-9000.

Interment: Roseland Park Cemetery, Berkeley, Michigan.

Fellowship and Repast: Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church (Following the Interment).

Acknowledgment: The family of Dr. Rachel Boone Keith, deeply appreciates your expressions of sympathy and acts of kindness. Your love and support have been a great comfort.

Contributions can be made to: The Dr. Rachel Boone Keith Prize Fund at the School of Medicine. Checks should be made payable to: "Trustees of Boston University" Note: Rachel Boone Keith Fund Address: BU School of Medicine, 75 Albany Street, L219, Boston, MA 02118. The Rachel Boone Keith Prize Fund is a permanently endowed fund established as a tribute by her family to provide annual awards to one or more forth year African-American female students who demonstrate excellence in performance at the Boston University School of Medicine.

## FAIR MINIMUM WAGE ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2007

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, today is a day that is long overdue.

Despite the fact that 4 out of 5 Americans support a minimum wage increase, the last Congress did not bring up a clean minimum wage bill.

For more than 9 years, the minimum wage has been frozen. Its value today is at its lowest level since 1955—when Eisenhower was President.

This Congressional neglect—again, 9 years since the last increase—is the longest since the minimum wage was created. The results have been devastating.

A full-time minimum wage worker earns only \$10,712 per year—almost \$6,000 under the poverty line for a family of three.

Furthermore, this low wage is often the only wage of the house—nearly half of all minimum wage workers are the sole breadwinner in their households.

Today, we will change that and millions of workers will benefit. This extra money—nearly \$4,000 for a full-time minimum wage earner—means that they won't have to choose between buying drugs for their children, and putting food on the family dinner table.

It is unacceptable for a person working a full-time job in the richest country in the world to live in poverty.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time that we pay American workers what they deserve: a fair day's wage for a day's work.

Raising the minimum wage is the right thing to do, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

THE STANDARDS TO PROVIDE  
EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT  
FOR ALL KIDS (SPEAK) ACT (H.R.  
325)

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2007

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Standards to Provide Educational Achievement for All Kids (SPEAK) Act, H.R. 325.

It has been no secret that I strongly believe that we need to improve our nation's math and science education. High quality math and science education at the K-12 levels is extremely important to ensure that our future workforce is ready to compete in the global economy. We are sacrificing our future and our children's, if we are not investing in today's children.

I have been so concerned about the quality of math and science education in this country, and the limited number of young people who are pursuing math and science-related degrees, that I founded the House STEM Education Caucus with my Democratic colleague MARK UDALL of Colorado in 2004. As you probably know, STEM stands for "Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics."

A resounding bipartisan chorus of business leaders, educators, Nobel laureates and other luminaries has called for improvements in our nation's math and science education, as evidenced by the Business Roundtable's Tapping America's Potential and the National Academies' Rising Above the Gathering Storm reports, as well as President Bush's American Competitiveness Initiative.

While the last Congress was unable to pass comprehensive legislation to improve math and science education, we now have a new opportunity to work in a bipartisan and bicameral fashion: the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 is up for reauthorization this year.

NCLB has made important strides toward strengthening standards-based education and holding states and schools accountable for ensuring that our students are learning. However, with more than 50 different sets of academic standards, state assessments and definitions of proficiency, there is tremendous vari-

ability across our nation in the subject matter our students are learning.

I might add that there also is considerable variation across states and even school districts in the sequencing of math and science courses, which is problematic for our increasingly mobile student population. Our students could lack instruction in certain basic science or math concepts if they transfer between schools with completely different sequences of courses.

Despite NCLB and all of our other efforts, the condition of our state standards is not well. In 2006, the Fordham Foundation reported that two-thirds of U.S. kids attend school in states with academic standards in the C, D, and F range. My own state of Michigan was given a C in math and a D in science despite the fact that Michigan was one of the pioneers in the standards movement. (Michigan adopted science guidelines in 1991). Recently, Michigan adopted the Michigan Merit Curriculum, which describes what students should know at each grade level, and is linked to tougher statewide graduation requirements that, for the first time, mandate 3 years of high school science.

States like Michigan are making substantial improvements, but our Nation as a whole needs to redouble its efforts to ensure that we have all students prepared for the jobs of the future, and must improve the quality of our educational standards from the current average or failing grades to excellent or A plus grades.

The SPEAK Act creates, adopts and recommends rigorous voluntary American education content standards in math and science in grades K-12. The bill tasks the National Assessment Governing Board, in consultation with relevant organizations, to review existing standards and to review the issue of course sequencing as it relates to student achievement.

The SPEAK Act authorizes the American Standards Incentive Fund to incentivize states to adopt excellent math and science standards. It offers an "If You Build It, They Will Come Approach." Let me emphasize that this bill does not establish a national curriculum or national standards. Participation by states is strictly voluntary. I have always felt that the "carrot" is more effective than the "stick" in leading reform. It is my hope that all states will feel the overwhelming responsibility to bolster their state standards in science and math and will step up to the plate.

I am very pleased that 38 organizations listed below have endorsed the SPEAK Act, including national organizations such as the National Education Association, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the National Science Teachers Association. In addition, organizations in my congressional district and elsewhere in Michigan have endorsed the SPEAK Act, including the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce; the University of Michigan; Michigan State University; the Regional Math and Science Center at Grand Valley State University; Steelcase, Inc.; RoMan Manufacturing, Inc.; Cascade Engineering; and the Michigan Science Teachers Association.

I look forward to working with Senator DODD, other Members and the education and business community in a bipartisan and bicameral fashion to pass the SPEAK Act into law. It will greatly improve our Nation's math and science education. New America Foundation, Thomas B. Fordham Institute, National

Education Association, Alliance for Excellent Education, Council of the Great City Schools, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, National Science Teachers Association, International Reading Association, American Association for the Advancement of Science, The American Chemical Society, Healthcare Leadership Council, SAE International, Math for America, Education Industry Association, National Education Knowledge Industry Association (NEKIA), Eli Broad, Philanthropist/Businessman, The Campaign for Educational Equity, Teachers College, Columbia University, Chicago Science Group, Jacob Ludes, III, Executive Director/CEO, New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), National Center for Technological Literacy, Project Lead the Way, Museum of Science, Boston, Junior Engineering Technical Society (JETS), National Society of Black Engineers, International Technology Education Association, ASME Center for Public Awareness, Building Engineering and Science Talent, San Diego, CA.

Connecticut-Based Organizations: The University of Connecticut, Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges, Connecticut Federation of School Administrators, Connecticut Principals' Center, Connecticut Association of Schools.

Michigan-Based Organizations: Grand Rapids, MI, Area Chamber of Commerce, Michigan Science Teachers Association, Michigan State University, Cascade Engineering, MI, RoMan Manufacturing, Inc., MI, Regional Math and Science Center, Grand Valley State University, MI Steelcase, Inc.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2007

Mr. NORWOOD. Madam Speaker, on roll-call No. 18, on passage—H.R. 2, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

MOURNING THE PASSING OF  
PRESIDENT GERALD RUDOLPH  
FORD

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H. Res. 15, a resolution honoring the life of President Gerald R. Ford. As America remembers President Ford's leadership and service to the American people, I offer my condolences to the Ford family.

While attending former President Ford's funeral, I had the opportunity to converse with Dr. David Mathews, a community leader in my district. Dr. Mathews served as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under President Ford and shared with my office some personal stories of the President's legacy. Dr. Mathews recalled: